



MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
COUNCIL CHAMBERS - HUTCHINSON, KANSAS
August 18, 2020
9:00 a.m.

1. The Governing Body of the City of Hutchinson, Kansas met in regular session at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, August 18, 2020 in the City Council Chambers with Vice Mayor Soldner presiding. Councilmembers Daveline, Garza and Bagwell were present. Mayor Piros de Carvalho attended the meeting by teleconference.

2. The Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was recited.

3. The prayer was given by Pastor Gary Getting of Elliott Mortuary.

4. Petitions, Remonstrances and Communications

a. Oral communications from the audience. (Please limit your remarks to five (5) minutes and to items NOT on the agenda.)

There were no oral communications from the audience.

5. Consent Agenda

a. Approval of Minutes of August 4, 2020 City Council meeting.

b. Approval of July 2020 financial reports.

c. Approval of appropriation ordinance in the amount of \$1,531,639.44.

Councilmember Daveline asked about special revenue fund collections; and if projections had been done as to when the Sports Arena debt would be retired. Angela Richard, Finance Director, said the City will be able to meet the debt obligations in 2021, but that she has not done any projections as it is hard to say what will happen going forward. Discussion ensued.

Motion by Councilmember Bagwell, second by Councilmember Garza, to approve the Consent Agenda; and authorize the Mayor to sign. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Public Hearing

a. Public hearing to consider adoption of the 2021 budget.

Motion by Councilmember Daveline, second by Councilmember Garza, to **open** the public hearing. The motion passed unanimously.

Angela Richard, Director of Finance, spoke. Councilmember Bagwell asked about future cash flow projections. Ms. Richard said cash flow mirrors the budget; and the City does not have cash flow projections as for-profit agencies would. Discussion ensued.

Motion by Councilmember Garza, second by Councilmember Bagwell, to close the public hearing. The motion passed unanimously.

b. Public hearing to consider 2020 Edward Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) application.

Motion by Councilmember Garza, second by Councilmember Daveline, to open the public hearing. The motion passed unanimously.

Jeffrey Hooper, Chief of Police, spoke about the grant. He said he is excited about using some of the funds for a bolo wrap which will assist officers in dealing with crisis individuals. He said the wrap allows restraint without injury to the individual.

Councilmember Soldner asked what the wrap looks like. Chief Hooper said the bolo wrap will be carried on the belt like a taser, but the wrap has a cable that is propelled outward and wraps around the legs, torso or upper arms. Chief Hooper spoke about when the device would be used; and said it has very positive reviews. Discussion ensued.

Motion by Councilmember Bagwell, second by Councilmember Garza, to close the public hearing. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Councilmember Daveline, second by Councilmember Bagwell, to approve the 2020 Edward Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) application; and authorize the Mayor to sign. The motion passed unanimously.

7. Ordinances and Resolutions

a. Consider Ordinance authorizing bonded projects. Angela Richard, Director of Finance, spoke.

Motion by Councilmember Daveline, second by Councilmember Garza, to approve Ordinance 2020 - 23 authorizing the issuance of General Obligation Bonds of the City of Hutchinson, Kansas, to pay the cost of certain improvements, all pursuant to Charter Ordinance No. 50 of the City; and authorize the Mayor to sign. The motion passed unanimously.

8. New Business

a. Consider three month extension for structures determined to be unsafe and dangerous. Trent Maxwell, Building Official, spoke about the properties. He said some

progress has been made on the property at 840 East 4th, but the others still have a ways to go.

Councilmember Daveline said he knows we are in unusual, challenging times, but is concerned that taxes have not been paid on these properties. He said he is troubled that we are extending the timeframe for repairs; and asked if it would be appropriate to consider a policy that we require taxes be brought current before extensions are allowed.

The owner of the property at 1600 Prairie said he hopes to get taxes caught up in the next two to three weeks. Councilmember Soldner said she doesn't want people to put a lot of money into the properties; and then have the county put the property in the tax sale. Councilmember Daveline said he is surprised the Prairie property hasn't been sold at tax sale since taxes are delinquent since 2014. Discussion ensued.

Susie Bernard said this has been hard for everyone; and all of the property owners in attendance are willing to restore their properties. Ms. Bernard said she has lost 99.9% of her business; and spoke about events she was to cater that have been cancelled. She said she is not able to pay her taxes in the next 30 to 60 days, but hopes to be able to do so after the first of the year. Councilmember Daveline said he has a tremendous amount of empathy for them, but he has a responsibility to bring this before the council to have a conversation if a good faith effort is being made to bring the taxes current. Additional discussion ensued.

The owner of the property at 204 East Avenue F said he is behind in taxes, but he will get them paid.

Councilmember Bagwell asked about the three month extension. Mr. Maxwell said the City has always done three month extensions; and the goal is to see some progress so that he can show changes to the council. He said he doesn't know if three months will be enough, but that's where we've always started. Additional discussion ensued.

Motion by Councilmember Daveline, second by Councilmember Bagwell, to approve a three month extension of time to complete the rehabilitation of 2100 South Bonebrake (commercial and residential structures), 1600 N. Prairie, 840 East 4th and 204 East Avenue F. The motion passed unanimously.

b. Consider secondary treatment improvements design-build amendment. Brian Clennan, Director of Public Works, spoke about the project. He said KDHE has required upgrades to the secondary treatment process; and the upgrades need to be completed by June 30, 2022. Discussion ensued.

Motion by Councilmember Daveline, second by Councilmember Bagwell, to approve Amendment No. 3 with Burns McDonnell for the Primary Clarifier Effluent Pipeline Project; and authorize the Mayor to sign. The motion passed unanimously.

- c. Consider 2021 budget. Angela Richard, Finance Director, spoke.

Motion by Councilmember Bagwell, second by Councilmember Garza, to approve the 2021 budget as proposed. The motion passed unanimously.

9. Report of City Officials

- a. Council

- Councilmember Bagwell had no comments.
- Councilmember Garza said they all have the interest of the public at heart. He also said he appreciated Councilmember Daveline bringing up the issue of taxes.
- Councilmember Daveline had no comments.
- Councilmember Soldner said she noticed the front cover of the Kansas Government Journal featured Smith's Market.
- Mayor Piros de Carvalho said she has been in contact with Chief Hooper regarding complaints she has received from residents near Orchard Park concerning activities taking place in the park after dark. She asked about the possibility of getting surveillance cameras at the park as this has been going on for quite some time. Chief Hooper said this has been a constant problem. He said residents have reported drag racing, drinking, vandalism, etc. Chief Hooper said they have added extra patrols, as well as putting plain clothed officers in the wooded areas, etc. He said unless an officer is there 24 hours a day, this can't be solved with current policing methods. Chief Hooper said security cameras could be installed, as well as a gate, but that someone would have to lock and unlock the gate.

Mayor Piros de Carvalho said a lot of money has been invested in this park; and said she would be in favor of a gate if that is our best option. Chief Hooper said most people drive to the park; and a gate would probably be the biggest deterrent. Additional discussion ensued.

Todd Davis, Director of Information Technologies, said there is a plan prepared for surveillance, but that was put on hold because of Covid, budget concerns, etc. He said it would not be terribly expensive; and that he has discussed this with the Police Department. Mr. Davis said with everyone working together, they can come up with a good solution. Mayor Piros de Carvalho said she will talk with the City Manager when he is back; and said she is looking forward to a solution.

The Mayor said for all of those following the pickleball issue, she has a meeting scheduled for Thursday.

She also said when she was in Colorado on vacation, she noticed that several restaurants had extended their dining area to parking lots and sidewalks. The Mayor also said she also saw the City of Wichita is allowing restaurants to use public rights-of-way to extend dining areas in order to promote social distancing. She asked if this is something the City would be interested in doing. Discussion ensued. Mayor Piros de Carvalho said she would be in touch with Debra Teufel with the Chamber of Commerce; and would report back in a few weeks.

Councilmember Garza said he is still working with Datjaeda Moore, Human Relations Officer, with getting a junior city council formed; and they are working on the final details.

10. Adjournment

Motion by Councilmember Bagwell, second by Councilmember Garza, to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously.

Upcoming Meetings

September 1, 2020	9:00 a.m.	City Council meeting
September 15, 2020	9:00 a.m.	City Council meeting